

CNR Honors Magazine  
Féilte: Autumn 2009



Femmes D'Esprit

# WHAT HAS HONORS BEEN UP TO?

## September:

- ◇ The Honors Program welcomed the Class of 2013, which is the first Honors class to boast two members from Texas (hello **Libby & Molly**)!
- ◇ The Honors Program welcomed back sophomore **Mary Henderson** and junior **Darianna Para** from their study abroad travels -- Ireland and Spain, respectively.
- ◇ Honors launched a new colloquium topic on memory, taught by Dr. Nereida Segura-Rico.
- ◇ The first year students settled into the first-ever Honors Living & Learning Community, enjoying a brand new kitchen, new flat screen television lounge, quiet study room, and a tech center.

## October:

- ◇ Two Honors students, **Samantha Avery** and **Dianne Marques**, travelled to Washington D.C. to take part in the National Collegiate Honors Council's annual conference.
- ◇ Members of Honors 285 celebrated Halloween at the famous Greenwich Village costume parade.

## November:

- ◇ Honors announced the launching of a new course -- American Gothic -- which will encompass vampires, goths, and the *Twilight* phenomenon that has taken over America.
- ◇ The first year Honors students, accompanied by several members of the sophomore and junior classes, attended a performance of the Tony-award winning play AVENUE Q in the theater district of Manhattan.
- ◇ Several members of the Honors program put forth a proposal to lead a round table at the 2010 Northeast Regional Honors Council's conference, held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania next fall. Their topic? The very successful launching of the Honors Living & Learning space!



# CONTENTS

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Mary Henderson '11

**Advisor**  
Dr. Amy Bass

**Contributors**  
Mary Henderson '11  
Dr. Amy Bass  
Dr. Nerida Segura-Rico  
Dianne Marques '10  
Alina Bachman '09  
Monica Alvarez '13  
Praniece Little '13  
Kristina Nilaj '13  
Morgan Owens '13  
Jaime Colburn '13  
Elizabeth Johnson '13  
Samantha Quattro '13  
Amelia Ellis '13  
Tazmin Haque '13  
Margaret Mary McMurray '13

**Cover Art**  
Samantha Quattro '13

**Print Advisor**  
Andrea Fagon

- 2 What Has Honors Been Up To?
- 3 About The Cover  
*Samantha Quattro, '13*
- 4 Letter from the Editor  
*Mary Henderson '11*
- 5 Honors Matters: Remember This?  
*Dr. Amy Bass*
- 6 Honors 385: Memory, Remembering, Telling  
*Dr. Segura-Rico*
- 7 Honors Curriculum: 2009-2010
- 8 Washington DC: The NCHC  
*Dianne Marques '10*
- 10 A Dream Fulfilled  
*Amelia Ellis, '13*
- 12 The Other Side  
*Alina Bachman '09*
- 14 Congratulations!
- 15 Four Things I Learned Away From Home  
*Mary Henderson '11*
- 16 Welcome Class of 2013!  
*The Class of 2013*



## ABOUT THE COVER

Taken by Samantha Quattro, the cover image depicts a sculpture in the European Decorative Arts Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The picture was taken on October, 17, 2009.

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR: FÁILTE

First off, I'd like to start by saying welcome back to all the returning students to the Honors Program!

So far my years at the College of New Rochelle have been great, but by far 2009 has been an immensely interesting year for me. I studied abroad in County Kerry, Ireland, in a small fishing town called Dingle that *maybe* had a population of a few hundred people outside of the summer tourist season. It made for an alternately amazing and terrible experience (honestly, I still haven't come up with an answer when people ask me "How was Ireland?")

For example, the classes and the experience in the country itself were amazing, and I've since decided not to be bogged down by the fact that the six other people I happened to be with 24/7 on the trip didn't get along. I'm so glad for those of you living on campus for the first time that your experiences dorming at CNR have been thus far better than my experience dorming in Ireland!

Anyway, one of the first classes that I took in Ireland was Anthropology. My teacher, Brid O'Connor, is probably the one teacher I most wish I had been able to stay in touch with. The first thing she taught us was the Irish phrase "*céad míle fáilte*," which means "one hundred thousand welcomes" literally and "welcome to the community!" colloquially. This was the first official welcome we'd gotten to Ireland, and my soft spoken teacher did it beautifully. So, as inspired by Brid, I once again would like to extend a warm welcome to

the class of 2013. *Céad míle fáilte!*

It has been a great experience this semester as your Resident Assistant in this first Honors Living & Learning community at CNR.

I know things have been stressful for you all at times, but you really are doing a great job. After my semester away from the workload required at CNR, I, too, am feeling the pinch of

making the transition back into college life. From the things I've seen, the first year Honors students have made the transition admirably. Keep a level head, and take advantage of the resources CNR practically throws at your feet. Take the college up on its many offers! Seriously, there is nothing wrong with going to the library, having an appointment

at Counseling and Career Services, or getting some advice on a paper from a tutor at the Center for Academic Excellence — it's all here for you.

Keep up the good work, everyone, and I'll see you again next year!

Mary Henderson, '11  
Editor-in-Chief





## HONORS MATTERS: REMEMBER THIS?

Dr. Amy Bass, Associate Professor of History, Honors Program Director

*We must know the right time to forget as well as the right time to remember. – Nietzsche*

We spend a lot of time trying to remember stuff. There are the things we have to remember: set alarm clock, brush teeth, do laundry, buy a new printer cartridge, eat, call mom, renew driver's license, quit smoking. And then there are the things that we want to remember: friends, birthdays, holidays, special outings.

College fits, obviously, into both categories. There is a lot of stuff that you have to remember to do in college, whether it is writing a paper and getting it in on time, or studying for an exam and remembering everything the professor said and everything that seems important in the textbook. But there is also a lot that you will want to remember: how you decorated your room, who you ate lunch with, that trip into the city that was so much fun.

Either way, you make choices. You decide what is important, and you decide what to remember, whether it means posting photographs instantly from your phone to your Facebook page so everyone can see what you are up to, or whether you create flashcards of all the anatomy terms you need for your biology class. These memories are an essential part of who you are: as a student, a daughter, a sister, a cousin, a friend. They are an inextricable part of your identity. "Everybody needs [her] memories," Saul Bellow writes. "They keep the wolf of insignificance from the door."

By remembering these things, you are forgetting others. Choosing what to forget is something we don't often think about, and yet it is an action we take every day. While we might remember things, for example, via photographs, we perhaps don't remember thinking: Oh, I don't need a picture of that. While we can memorize the terms on those flash cards, we perhaps don't remember the terms in the book that we skipped over as "not important enough" to write down.

Those decisions can certainly haunt us. They can also help, as the act of forgetting can be an act of empowerment. Consider writing in a journal, for example, or perhaps even logging your day in 140 characters or less on Twitter. You are creating a version of your day, a version of your memory. You leave things out, perhaps because you cannot simply remember everything. But also because there are things you do not want to remember, whether because they are unpleasant or because they are seemingly insignificant. Either way, forgetting becomes an action unto itself. And if it wasn't, if you remembered *everything*, then *nothing* would mean *anything*.

So on occasion, put your pen down; close your laptop; don't take the picture. Stop trying to remember everything. Because if we forget nothing, we will not know the meaning of anything we remember.

## HONORS 385: MEMORY, REMEMBERING, TELLING

Dr. Nereida Segura-Rico.

In his short story "Funes the Memorious," Argentine writer Jorge Luis Borges presents the reader with a character who, after falling off a horse and becoming paralyzed, develops a prodigious ability to perceive and remember every detail in the world around him. However, the reader can only pity Funes' prodigious memory as it makes it practically impossible for him to have any thoughts. "To think," the narrator tells us, "is to forget differences, generalize, make abstractions. In the teeming world of Funes, there were only details, almost immediate in the presence."

In just four pages Borges engages the dilemmas that have surrounded definitions and uses of memory from, well, as far back as humankind can remember: How are memories created, stored, and used? How does memory influence the way we relate to the world and to others? As someone who had achieved, and surpassed, one of the most cherished goals of human beings, a perfect memory, poor Funes was not capable of asking himself whether there is a thing as too much memory and, if so, whether it is possible to achieve some sort of balance between remembering and forgetting. Ultimately, he was incapable of ascertaining how his photographic knowledge was relevant to him not only as an individual, but as part of a community. His memory was useless because, paradoxically enough, it really never



connected him to the past but kept him imprisoned in a perpetual present.

With the help of Borges, other thinkers and writers from Classical times to the present, contemporary artists and film makers, this year the Honors colloquium will focus on

memory. In order to address the multiple ramifications of the topic as well as the diverse interests of the enthusiastic group of young women enrolled in the course, we will not only analyze autobiographies, memoirs and testimonials, but will also consider how different media such as plastic arts, films, museum exhibits and monuments, enable, limit or condition the act of remembering. In its contrast to history, memory becomes a "place" or "site" where a neglected or forgotten past can be recovered.

As we embark on a year-long study that will culminate in the Honors Conference Day, I expect that many of the challenges of the course will arise from the fact that, as in Funes' case, there is too much out there, that everything has to do with memory. I trust that selection of materials and the seminar discussions, together with the mentoring of SAS faculty in individual projects, will guide our study as we move beyond our immediate fascination with the issue of memory to reflect on how and toward what end we construct personal and collective images of the past.



## HONORS CURRICULUM: 2009-2010

### Fall:

- ◇ Honors 101: The Self in Context, Dr. Nelson Ong
- ◇ Honors 105: Critical Research Essay, Dr. Nancy-Elizabeth Fitch
- ◇ Honors 285: Popular Culture and Modern America, Dr. Amy Bass
- ◇ Honors 385: Memory, Remembering, Retelling, Dr. Nereida Segura-Rico
- ◇ Honors 490: Senior Symposium I, Dr. Ruth Zealand

### Spring:

- ◇ Honors 108: Topics in Identity: the Self & Other, Dr. Cynthia Kraman
- ◇ Honors 220: American Gothic, Dr. Michael Quinn
- ◇ Hon 386: Memory, Remembering, Retelling, Dr. Nereida Segura-Rico
- ◇ Honors 491: Senior Symposium II, Dr. Ruth Zealand

## NEW COURSE: AMERICAN GOTHIC

**Dr. Michael Quinn, Associate Professor & Chair, Communication Arts**

Since the canonical gothic novel *The Castle of Otranto* was released in 1764, the gothic mode has questioned mainstream cultures and societies, challenging traditional boundaries between reason and unreason, male and female, self and other, good and evil, God and Satan, and even life and death. As much lifestyle as artistic technique, the gothic mode has influenced art, architecture, fashion, popular music, literature, cinema, and television. This course will investigate 'goth' as a subculture and as a transmedia artistic form. Beginning with the classic Poe tale "The Fall of the House of Usher," we will follow gothic trends and tendencies up to the present day with *Twilight* and "True Blood." Open to sophomores, juniors, & seniors.

# WASHINGTON DC: THE NCHC

Dianne Marques—Class of 2010

Dianne attended the 2009 National Collegiate Honors Conference in 2009. In this piece, she explains her experiences presenting at the conference.

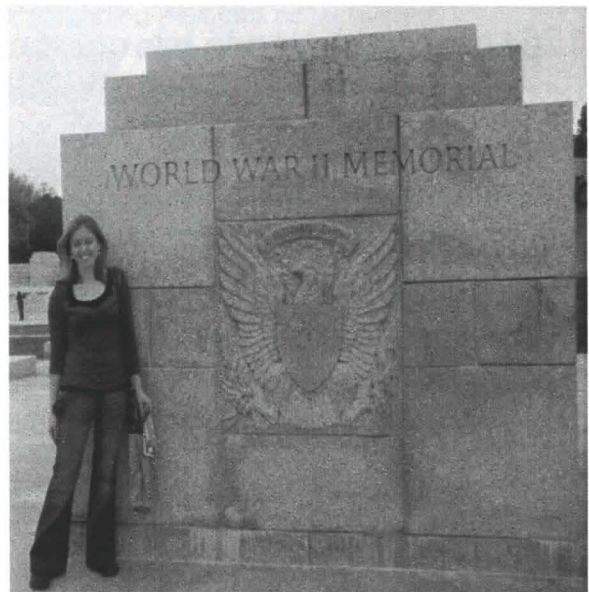
Most years I spend Halloween weekend going into the Village and seeing the different costumes. However, this year I had a bit of a different experience. On Thursday, October 29, 2009 I travelled to Washington, D.C. for the National Collegiate Honors Conference. I was selected to present my project on the International Response and Reaction to Hurricane Katrina. In junior year, our Honors class studied "Catastrophe," and Hurricane Katrina was one of the focal points. As I am an International Studies Major, I chose to look at Katrina from a different point of view, a global perspective. It was a very challenging project as I had to research different newsprint media from various countries, translate most of them and analyze their opinions as well as account their contributions to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.



Once we (myself, Samantha Avery, & Dr. Bass) arrived in Washington, D.C. we went to check in at the Hyatt Hotel, which was beautiful! We also went to register at the Honors Conference and review the schedules and plans that awaited us. We had a few hours to explore Washington before we attended the Welcoming Reception. We were hungry, so we walked the streets of D.C. and had a delicious lunch at the Hard Rock Café. I got to know a lot Samantha, who is from Maine, has two younger sisters, and is looking to go to Law School. She and I did not know much of each other

so we took the lunch to get to know one another. We discovered we had much in common, we love 80's music, and our favorite artist is Madonna! We have taken a class together but never really got to know each other. Samantha is a sophomore resident and I am a senior commuter, which made it hard for us to cross paths before now.

We walked through Washington taking pictures and burning the calories as we visited the World War II monument, Washington Monument, Vietnam Wall (which I had imagined a lot bigger), The Lincoln Memorial and the White House. We then went back to the Hotel and attended the welcoming dinner and had the chance to meet other Honors Students from other schools. After the dinner, there was the Honors Party, which was only for students and gave everyone the opportunity to dance all night long. The following morning I presented my project in the poster session, which lasted about two hours. There were many other interesting topics: Soil Erosion, Women in American History, and Pornography and College Students.



*Autumn Semester 2009 ~ Femmes D'Esprit*



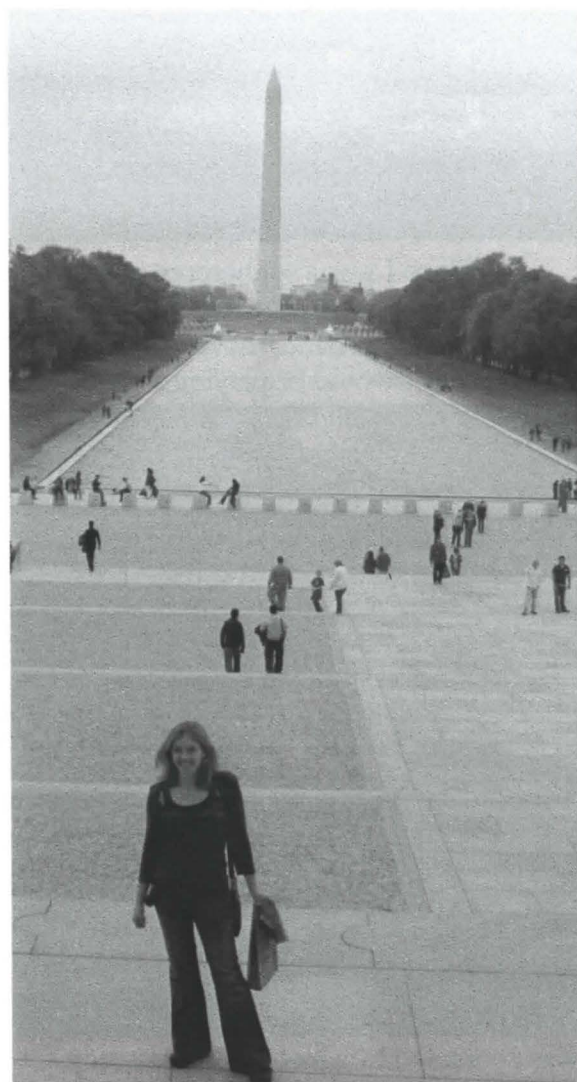


The highlight of my trip was meeting people from New Orleans who were able to give me their perspective and personal account of Hurricane Katrina. That really made my project worthwhile because I was able to discuss the social problems, including the poverty and lack of resources in New Orleans, and their impact from Hurricane Katrina. When my session was over, I went to see a film, *Linguistics*, which emphasized the importance of conserving languages in a time where languages are becoming extinct. According to the documentary, a language is lost every two weeks because most schools teach English or the language of the nation, encouraging the children to forget their native language. It made me realize that with the loss of language there also is a loss of culture and a sense of identity. I cannot imagine seeing the extinction of the Portuguese Language because that is part of who I am and without it I would feel misplaced.

Friday night we had dinner with Dr. Bass at a sushi restaurant, which was a delightful evening. I had never had sushi, so that night I was willing to give raw fish a try! It was a great new experience that I will never forget because no one ever forgets the first time they ate Sushi. After the dinner, we saw a show, *Capitol Steps*, which was a comedic satire on American Politics. Since I have a great interest in politics it was amusing to see different critiques of members of our government, including former president Bush, President Obama, and Hillary and Bill Clinton, discussing topics like healthcare, environment, infidelity, immigration and taxes.

Traveling to Washington for the Honors Conference is an experience that I would recommend to every Honors Student. I had an amazing

experience in meeting new people from all over the country and from CNR! I learned the importance of the Honors Program, challenging me in education as well as challenging me as a person. The Honors Program's focus is to emphasize academic excellence, discover talent, push students to be leaders and be their best. It also emphasizes the importance of education as a means to fulfill dreams and understand different perspectives. In times of economic hardships, many institutions begin to cut programs to maintain their budget. It is critical that we value the importance of the Honors Program and ensure that the schools keep it as a priority. The Honors Program and the National Collegiate Honors Conference are two things that I recommend for everyone to participate during the undergraduate studies.



## A DREAM FULFILLED

Amelia Ellis—Class of 2013

First year student Amelia Ellis recounts her experience playing her first guitar gig in Albany this fall at the Red Square Club.



When I was a sophomore in high school playing in my acoustic duo of a, quote unquote, “band,” never did I think that one day I would be playing a gig in Albany, NY. I would practice on my Costco bought acoustic guitar every day, playing whatever song I could from my Neil Young songbook, thinking that one day I’d be able to play songs way out of my league. “Yes,” I told myself. “I will be the greatest female guitarist that has ever lived!” I’ve been playing guitar for five years now and it has been the one thing that has been a constant in my life lately. Never have I not wanted to be able to play songs that I love, or show people my hard work, or be able to make them sing along, smile and have a good time. Well after five years of wishing, and hoping and hours of practicing, I was able to do just that.

Over summer vacation of 2009, I was contacted by a free booking agency,

Afton of Albany, which books local artists in clubs around the Albany area. After, agreeing to sign with them, Mike, the booking agent, wrote that he would email me with available show dates. I waited and waited and waited until finally I received the single most exciting email ever: “I have an opening on the 11<sup>th</sup> of October at the Red Square in Albany, NY.” There would be only one response to this email: I’ll take it. After much contemplation on a set list, yes I thought about what I was going to play for well...months...it clicked! I needed a partner! My senior year in high school, I was in a short-lived rock band with two friends who were already in college, Tucker Anderson and Chris Condry, and my high school friend, Andrew Pepper-Anderson. We’ve all gone our separate ways, Tucker to Denmark to study abroad, Andrew to Colby College in Maine, and I here. Chris however, stayed in Great Barrington, MA., where I live. An absolutely brilliant guitarist, I knew that I could count on him to come through for me, and he did. I asked if he’d be interested in collaborating with me for this show; he gave me an enthusiastic yes. So the time came when I was to go home for the weekend and practice with Chris for the big show on Sunday. Tickets were sold and my roommate Sam Quattro and my friend Monica Alvarez were coming, and Sam was bringing her parents and her two friends Luke and Danny; I’ve never been so flattered in my life.

---

*Autumn Semester 2009 ~ Femmes D’Esprit*



Chris and I practiced three times: the night I got home after an unfortunate and quite dramatic missing of my transfer train to Wassaic, and then the night before and the day of the show. I felt that we had it made. It'd be perfect, absolutely perfect, and I'd be able to play in front of a crowd and other musicians and my friends and show to my mom that all that money that went into buying me strings, picks, songbooks and guitars paid off.

So the day arrives...Sunday...I have my dad drive me to Albany because my mom would keep asking me questions like, "are you nervous?" or "do you have everything?" We get to 388 Broadway, the address of Red Square and I check the time; we're early. "Chris is coming in a separate car, he'll be here in a bit." I go into the Red Square, a very chic and very cool bar and nightclub, check in with the Afton manager, and wait some more. The show is supposed to start at 6:30...it's 6:20 and still no Chris. I find out what time we go on, 8:30, and that calms my nerves about Chris not being there.

However, 7:00 rolls around and still, no Chris. I call him and he's totally lost! Luckily he made it on time and we sit down and wait our turn. The lights are low in the audience and I feel absolutely elated. My heart is racing, my hands ready to play, my voice ready to sing; ridiculous thoughts were going

through my head at this point in time: "Can people see through my shirt...my voice is gonna crack...I need water, wait, no I don't or else I'll have to go to the bathroom in the middle of the set..." I cannot describe to you how happy I was! Then, the moment of truth; my first gig was about to start. I go up on the platform stage, sit on the stool, sound check, I look over at Chris, he's all ready to go and then I hear "You can start whenever you're ready." I take a big breath and speak into the microphone: "Hello. This is Chris Condry, my name's Amelia Ellis. We'd like to start off with a favorite song of mine: 'Little Blind Fish.'"

My first show. A dream fulfilled.



## THE OTHER SIDE

Alina Bachman—SAS 2009

Alina Bachman share the experiences and wisdom she's gained since graduating in May 2009.

Hello again from the other side! For those who don't know me, my name is Alina Bachmann and I recently graduated from The College of New Rochelle in Spring of 2009. I'm writing today to share my post-grad experience of the dreaded job hunt as well as offer some advice.



*Alina Bachman posing with Honors pal Karyn Mooney after their 2009 Hooding Ceremony.*

I was so exhausted from my senior year that I had decided to take at least a year off before pursuing graduate school. Plus I neither had the time nor money to start researching schools during my senior year in order to meet deadlines for the Fall semester. So I concentrated on graduating, and that I did. I figured I would get a job and be able to save up some money before enrolling in the next step of my education. I mean, how hard could it really be?

Let me just tell you that it hasn't been easy. The job hunt has become a full-time job in and of itself. Only I'm still just left with lint in my pockets. I've put out at least 150 to 200 applications by now. This has been ongoing since May. I really didn't believe the job market was that bad until I stepped into it myself.

The problems I'm mainly running into are that the jobs I'm interested in and applying to, people with 15 or more years of experience are applying to as well, because everyone right now is looking for jobs. So what looks better? A recent graduate or the person with a ton of professional experience behind them? Another issue is that the jobs I would qualify for are unpaid internships, which would just be moving backwards for me, as I do not have the money to finance commuting etc.

I was hoping that by the time I put all this out on paper, I'd at least have some sort of happy ending to conclude with. I unfortunately can't say that I am currently working in a big shot graphic design company in downtown Manhattan but that hasn't dampened my spirits. It's the reality of the situation and our economy, and something you might too have to deal with after graduation. So I shall offer some advice.

*Autumn Semester 2009 ~ Femmes D'Esprit*



Don't get discouraged. You may need to put out just as many applications as I have without anything coming from it, but eventually something will. The only way you can get a job is to keep trying. So don't give up if it doesn't happen right away.

It's not too early to start looking and establishing contacts. An internship is a good means of gaining such contacts, so if you'll be pursuing one in the near future, be sure to hang on to that information for when you graduate.

If you're trying to decide whether to go straight to graduate school or to explore the job scene, now might be a better time to continue on with school. This isn't perhaps best for everyone, and who knows, maybe you'll have an easier time than I have, but based on experience it seems to be the more efficient choice.



*Alina's Senior Showcase piece, entitled "Person of the Forest." Alina constructed trees from food labels for products containing palm oil, an additive that through unsafe harvesting practices has led to decline in orangutan populations.*

I wish you all the best of luck. Congrats to this year's seniors and welcome freshmen!



**HAPPY POSTSCRIPT!** Shortly after writing this article, I was contacted by someone from RedApes.org to create a logo for their group of young environmental activists, "Forest School 101". They asked for an image of three children holding hands with orangutans on either side of them. The final version is pictured above. I based the images of the children off the three founders of the club, which you can also see pictured on the front page of the redapes website. They were so pleased with the logo that there's already talk of having me redesign the Orangutan Outreach logo as well. Sometimes opportunity knocks just when you least expect it!

## CONGRATULATIONS HONORS CLASS OF 2009!

We miss you all, but congratulations on your hard work and excellent achievements! Good luck on the job market, in graduate school, and in medical school. And keep your Honors diplomas with you at all times!

**Alina Bachmann**

**Alexandria Bignall**

**Erin Daley**

**Sarah Hnath**

**Jenell Lenge**

**Carol Mathew**

**Sherly Mathew**

**Karyn Mooney**

**Megan Showell**

**Jee Hee Yoon**



# THE FOUR THINGS I LEARNED AWAY FROM HOME

Mary Henderson—Class of 2011

Mary Henderson shares some of the secrets she learned (the hard way) while studying abroad and working on Martha's Vineyard for the summer.

I have not been home very much this year and it has been one of the greatest learning experiences of my life to date. I spent the Spring Semester in Ireland, came home for a few weeks before moving to Martha's Vineyard to work for the summer, was home three days and then returned to The College of New Rochelle. I've made a lot of mistakes and learned a lot of things the hard way. So here's my list of the Top Four Things I've Learned This Year: *making mistakes so you don't have to!*

**First, It's not possible to make all of the people like you all of the time.**

This may sound obvious, and it is, until you are in a situation where no one likes you most of the time. When I was in Ireland, the seven of us Americans living together all hated each other by the end of the semester. As someone who has been known for attempting to make peace in any given situation, this was really hard for me—especially because this personality trait of mine was used to make me a scapegoat for why no one else was having a good time.

**"Remember Ladies, the things you've found here are at home: you just have to open your eyes."**

These final words from my Irish Anthropology teacher really struck a chord in the group of us who studied abroad. For us, despite not being able to get along, our study abroad experience had been rewarding and in some ways magical. This quiet reminder from Brid that we didn't have to travel anywhere to find magic and beauty is something that stands out as a pivotal piece of my Ireland experience,

and it is ironic that it happened about twelve hours before we left the country forever. I could probably write an entire piece just on the significance of this one moment to me.

**It's okay to slow down. Really. I Promise.**

Life, especially the life of a college student, is stressful. We have the tendency to become like chickens with our heads cut off—running around aimlessly just trying to accomplish anything. Unfortunately in my case, I often wind up less productive in this mode than at any other time. I think the best advice I can give is to take a minute, slow down your pace (literally) and refocus yourself on something else. You'd be surprised at the amazing things you notice around campus when you do.

**Finally, You earn more respect by being a nice person.**

Yes, it's true, I didn't learn this for the first time this year, but I did get constant reminders in my summer job. This summer I worked for The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank, and the purpose of this company was to buy and preserve land on Martha's Vineyard for public use. Every day I sat at the Manaquayak Nature Preserve dealing with people who felt as though they were entitled to behave in any way they wanted to on our property just because it was there. I got to deal with cranky neighbors and a great number of people who had been trespassing for years. My coworkers often responded with shouts and threats to kick people

off the property, which brought them negativity in return. I always got more out of my guests with a smile and a calm tone than anything else, and I still managed to enforce all the rules. Imagine that.



# WELCOME CLASS OF 2013!

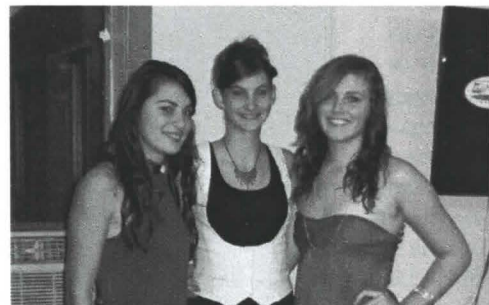
Here the Living & Learning students in the Honors class of 2013 introduce themselves to the rest of Honors! Let us all extend a warm welcome to our new members!



Heya! I'm **Monica Alvarez** and I'm a freshie :) I'm in Honors...duhh...I love all things dark and neon. Why? I'm just that cool. I watch Dexter and True Blood religiously. I wish I were a Transformer. If I could date anyone, it'd be Aquaman or Eric Northman or Johnny Depp. Why? They're just that hot. I have the most amazing friends, here and back home in Florida. I'm insane on youtube. Check me out, my username is monicaroxhard. Rate nicely :) Facebook and myspace take up most of my time. I love video games more than I love chocolate. Bender is my hero and I love lamp. K thx bye.

My name is **Praniece Little** and I am a Psychology major with an interest also in childhood education. I was born and raised in New Haven, CT, where I graduated from Hopkins School. After receiving my doctorate in Clinical Psychology, I intend to open a private clinic for children and adolescents without sufficient health insurance. I have many interests, one of which is writing poetry. I have been writing songs and poems since the age of four, and I have since traveled the east coast to share my gift and my story with all who are willing to listen. Beyond my academic goals for the year, which include maintaining a strong work ethic, I hope to truly become a part of the community at CNR from clubs to class functions. I've made some wonderful connections with the Honors women, and I know that our bond will only strengthen over the next four years.

Hi! My name is **Kristina Nilaj** and I am majoring in mathematics and education. I am a jock and am on the championship volleyball team here at CNR. I love chocolate and watching television. My favorite shows are Dark Blue, Leverage, NCIS, and all of the Law and Order shows. I'm simple, sweet, and to the point. Tootles!



*Autumn Semester 2009 ~ Femmes D'Espit*



Hi! I'm **Morgan Owens** and I'm a new freshman at CNR. I come from Arkport, NY, which is where I attended high school. Mind you, this is about 6 hours away in an extremely small town, so this is a big change for me! I plan to major in psychology while I am here. I enjoy this topic and plan to someday go to medical school to become a Psychiatrist. I enjoy playing sports; in high school, I played soccer, I cheered, and I also ran track as a sprinter. I have always been a strong believer that friends are extremely important to good health. I am a BIG cat lover! I have two kitties at home, brother and sister, one named Cali and one named Shananagins. They are my world. My family also means a lot to me. So, that's about it! If anyone has any questions or wants to do something fun sometime, just

let me know (and here's my email- mo2887as@cnr.edu)!!



My name is **Jamie Colburn**. I am from Agawam, Massachusetts. I have a younger brother, John. I am majoring in Biology at CNR. I plan on going to graduate school for a doctorate degree in optometry. I like to swim, dive, and play tennis. I am on CNR's swim team. In my spare time I enjoy reading, drawing, painting, and listening to music. I also play the flute and piccolo. An interesting fact about me is that I like the slight smell of skunk. I have two dogs named Rascal and Kuzzie. Another interesting fact is that my favorite protist is Euglena.

Howdy ya'll! I'm **Libby Johnston** from Dallas, Texas and I'm planning on majoring in International Studies. I'm currently Captain of the Blue Angels Volleyball Team and hope to be a part of the softball program as well. I joined the skiing/snowboarding club and I cannot wait to go!!! We don't get enough snow for that down in Texas. I'm extremely excited to be here at The College of New Rochelle and even more ready to learn and grow and receive an excellent education. Being here is such a blessing for me. This year is going to be fantastic and full of incredible experiences. I can't wait!



Hello honors world! My name is **Samantha Quattro**. I'm from Danbury, CT, and I am an art therapy major. So, let's see. All about me. I am a HUGE music junkie. I will listen to anything if I think it's awesome. That being said, I am also a singer by nature. If you live in Ursula, you've probably heard me and my roommate singing show tunes! I'm also a big lover of movies and books. My favorite movie and book are Peter Pan! Could you ask for more than pirates, Indians, fairy dust, and adventure? I think not. Another fun fact about me is that I can solve a Rubick's Cube in 2 minutes or less. I'm really proud of that. I think this is pretty much me in a nutshell! I am so excited to be part of the class of 2013! I've only been here a little while, and it's been amazing already. I can't wait to see what the upcoming years will bring!



Hello everyone! My name is **Amelia Ellis**, I am eighteen years old and hail from Great Barrington, MA. I am studying Communication Arts, focusing on Broadcasting, and World Religion. I love music! I play guitar, flute, a bit of this and that and the other thing. I had my first gig in Albany, NY. under the Afton Albany booking agency in October. My friend Chris Condry and I are an acoustic duo; I did have a full fledged, short lived rock band my senior year in high school, but one moved to Denmark to study, and the other to Maine to attend Colby. My favorite band of all time is Led Zeppelin, but I love Neil Young, David Bowie, Queens of the Stone



Age, Foo Fighters, Muse, and a whole bunch of other rock and folk artists. I am Orthodox Christian and attend a quaint church in Salisbury, CT. when I am home. I love the ocean, Sagamore Beach being my top vacation spot, and after ten years of being in the Mass Media Industry, I want to buy a house on the beach in Madison, CT. and open up my own music store downtown. I am enjoying my first year thoroughly and look forward to getting that radio station and TV program on campus going! My goal? In college I want to learn as much as I can. I am here for an education, and to make this education valuable to

my future. I want to be successful of course, but my success will not be selfish. I plan to take care of my parents when they're old, I plan to help save the arts in schools all over the country, I plan to change the face of media today. Change is a big word, but that's what people can do with an education and passion. They can change the world, they can change science and math and invent new technology. Anybody can change anything if they put their heart into it, and that's what I plan to do. I will! Just wait and see! I'm not an enthusiastic freshman! I am an enthusiastic person, so don't expect my attitude to change! THINK POSITIVELY! :) I am in Ursula Hall, room 204E. Come on over! Me and Sam will gladly play "Apples to Apples!"





Hi! My name is **Tazmin H. Uddin** and I'm an English major here at CNR. I'm not sure but I think I might do a minor or another major in the field of Education. I'm a pretty random person who loves reading but hates Romance novels. I enjoy watching Sci-Fi, CSI, NCIS, and Robin Hood. I also enjoy listening to songs that have meaningful lyrics and tend to listen to artists that people hardly hear about. One of my favorite groups is called The Sound of Reason (based in Canada) and their lyrics really make you think. I love collecting quotes, writing my own poetry, and have recently started blogging. So far I've had over 400 views so I'm happy. I tend to be very optimistic and am, for the most part, always smiling. I come from a pretty big family so it feels odd being away from all my siblings, but I've found a new family who has welcomed me and so I say thanks. It truly is a blessing to be here and I look forward to getting acquainted with the rest of my fellow students.

---

Margaret Mary Molly McMurray, from Texas, future archaeologist and forensic anthropologist. An avid reader of books and manga. Musician, novice artist, top writer, and swimmer. Video games are my love and I'll battle anyone in games new and old. I'm a critic of chicken, and enjoy good Texas food, and sea food. My day starts and ends with a cup of tea and I am anime otaku. I dislike perfumes with great passion but love the smell of a green, alive, flower garden. And I do play Dungeons & Dragons! I'm short, but strong, and I'm ready to take on any challenge life has to throw at



